# THE EXCITER

***Formerly Called Gutter Dope, Established in 1934.***

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FIELD DAY 62

June 23-24 is Field Day. The members of the San Antonio Radio Club will again set up stations on the island at Woodlawn Lake. The stations will be operated by club members but everyone is invited to come out and see the set-up. This year will see several new inovations. We would especially like to welcome new hams both Novice, Technician and General to visit us at our club meetings every first and third Friday of the month at Durham's School of Electronics or during Field Day at the lake.

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SSB IN AND AROUND SAN ANTONIO

Conditions have been very good on 20 meters and 15 meters has had openings during the day. You can find EL6L almost any day of the week on 15 meters. He has been having a nice signal in here. DX has been very good in the mornings on 20. Most of the signals are coming in over the long path. BV1US, KG6IJ, 5H3GC, VQ2AT and VQ2CK are just a few that have turned up. Had a nice chat with VP6WR and Woody said he will be up on SSB in the near future. His homebrew rig is almost completed. FY7IY is on SSB for a short period and can be found around 14.300 mc in the afternoon and early evenings.

There has been a lot of discussion about certificates lately in the various publications; so just to find out how rough these certificates are to get, I decided to give it a try. Believe me, some of them are hard to come by. There are some which seemed real easy to me so natrually I go after those right away. Much to my surprise, none of the certificates are a snap unless you have been at this business a long time and have spent a lot of time on the air and have received 100% QSL's. It might be simple but I doubt it. I just received the 'Worked 25 KZ5's" which is a nice sheet of wallpaper. This one took me three months and many hours of listening. (I think he's found the secret. -Ed.) All stations were worked on 15 & 20 meters SSB. I suggest you give certificate hunting a try if you think it is easy. I am sure you will change your mind as I did.

Have you heard the Swan Tranceiver? It is a single band transmitter and receiver, which has been out for a few months and may be used as either a fixed or mobile station. Mobile it uses the Heathkit Mobile Power Supply. They put out a fine signal and whats more, the price is quite reasonable. The only trouble is that they only turn out about two rigs a day and the demand has been great. I heard a very good comparison between the Swan and a KWM-2 as mobile stations last week. The Swann stations said the difference in power was about $1,000; but he was stuck with only one band.

I haven't heard to much local activity on the upper frequencies lately. The bands aren't completely dead so come on back. Don't forget to get your letter off your Senator on Senate Bill S-2361. If anyone doesn't know who to write, just give me a call.

73 & good SSBing
Mac, W5BVI

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DX NOTES

The DX-peditions season is with us again! As this is being written a monstrous pile-up generated by Gus Browning's VQ9AA stint at rare Aldabra Island is causing much wailing and gnashing of teeth; not to mention QRM. This is the 3rd stop on W4BPD's aroung the World DX-pedition; he will be active briefly from Monaco and the Seychelles. How to work Monaco continues to confound most W-hams. According to Gus, the blame can be placed squarely on the sheer 3,000 foot mountain that guards the tiny nations' northwestern frontier. The only hotels in Monaco are situated right at the base of that pile of stone; and few indeed are the signals that manage to hurdle it. Maybe what we need is a "corkscrew" mode of propagation to drill right through! Only 50 W's made the grade during Gus' recent stay.

Another beautifully handled DZ-pedition was the Colombia Radio Club's HKØAB operation from Baja Nuevo. This group topped off a sterling performance with a 48 hour matathon from Serrana Bank, KS4BF activating that rare spot for the first time in over three years.

Another fine DX-pedition was that sponsored by the Army Signal Corps of India to Bhutan. Signals from VU2US/VU5 were heard in most of the U.S.; but few indeed are the W5's who breached the QRM Barrier to snag them.

Forthcoming DX-peditions to Corsica (DL9PF/FG); Wallis Island (VK3AH)/FW8), Gilbert Islands (VR1M), and Dahomey (5N2RDG/TY2) promise to brighten the summer months. See the West Gulf DX Bulletin or contact W5LGG for up to date info on these.

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VHF Editor ---------- W5LFM
DX Editor ---------- W5LGG
40 Meter Editor ---------- K5MOF
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THE SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB, W5SC
W5IWE, Pres. K5VCR, V. P.
W5EDZ, Sec. K5UKN, Treas.

The Pacific nuclear tests have spawned a good deal of activity on SSB from some of the rarer Pacific Isles. Good singals from many stations can be heard from KJ6, KP6, VR3 and KB6. Generally these fellows need phone-patch assistance and they are glad to QSL those sending self-addressed and stamped envelopes.

Another bright spot on the DX scene has been the renewed activity from UA1KED (Franz Josef Land). Look for a fast break-in CW signal about RST558 on 14040 aroung 7:30 AM local time. QSL's go via the Moscow Bureau.

Record high QSL percentages have been reported locally. In mid-April W5UX reported 293 confirmed out of 293 worked, and W5LGG 277 confirmed out of 278 worked.

DX face-to-face department: Via W5LFM comes word of W5VY, Pat Patterson's recent trip to Teheran, Iran where he met EP2AG, Buck, and EP2BB, Bill. Both Buck and Bill put in good signals in San Antonio and have given many of us new countries. Rumor has it that Pat was trying to arrange 6 meter skeds with these boys -- via the moon if the sunsports won't do there share-hi!

With a reminder that the W5 QSL Bureau (W5ADZ) has over 6,000 unclaimed DX QSL's for W5's just waiting for their self-addressed stamped envelopes. I'll sign QRU for now.

73 & DX
Len, W5LGG

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40 METERS PHONE

Band conditions have been very erratic lately. In some cases, the short skip has stayed in late but other instances long skip has moved in quite early. DX conditions have not been too good, although there has been some SSB DX at the low and high end of the band.

The Following stations were heard on 40 recently: K5HHR, K5 VSF, W5KLW/mobile, WA5AXG, K5HYF, K5FRK, K5DKA, WA5AGN, K5BDK/mobile, K5GEP, K5FRO, W5KCV, K5AIH, W5EUI (Ted is an old timer who has returned to the air), W8NCI/5, WB2AGP/5, K5ZBI, K5OFJ, W5VIO, W4OFS/5, K5HXE, WB2ABJ/5, W8TSP/5, and K5DKM, Paul, who is back on the air after changing QTH.

Several 40 meter regulars were visitors in San Antonio recently--K5ASB-Jim, XE2WH-Bill, K5TRY- Frank, and K5SZC.

K5ETJ is keeping the band hot. W5IHT-Al, From Menard, Texas reports he reads our column. Lets have SOME reports from other stations.

TNX, 73-
Aubrey, K5MOF

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**FRED K5ENK** **PAUL K5OHG** **JIM K5TYI**

WITH THE BEXAR COUNTY AREC

During the past month there has been considerable activity in the Bexar County Emergency Nets. We would like to commend: K5MOF, K5GHH, W5GUR, K5UWS, K5TGA, K5PZO, K5FRF, W5KGS and the many others for their efforts and consistency.

Most of the sessions during this period have been held under the most extreme band conditions and are not too unlike those which would be encountered during actual emergency conditions.

The 40 meter and the 75 meter nets have not proven too reliable for local coverage and it is hoped that the 6 meter net will have more check-ins and assume this function.

We would like to welcome new AREC members: K5WQG, K5BSP, K5QZA, K5TYF and K5BDR who have joined since last publication, also K5RWJ (will have to see Doc for a new pair of specs so we can read the last issue of the EXCITER).

If you just like to rag chew or have a few minutes time, give the net control station of your Bexar County Emergency Net a call sometime and let them know you're around.

For the benefit of ye olde traffice handlers and so there is no confusion (W5IWE pls note) following countries have entered into third party agreements with the United States permitting amateurs to handle relatively unimportant messages; Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Mexico, Nicarugua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Venezuela and El Salvador.

See you on the air.

73
E. L. Ulrey, K5HZR
EC San Antonio/Bexar County

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VHF and UP

As the summer months approach every mans thoughts turn to VHF and interest is evident to those who work it. Although the solid February 6 meter band openings have not been followed by any prospects of the activity that has been witnessed for the past few years, interest is shaping up along, so called, unconventional lines.

Inversion conditions, producing extended ground wave, has given rise to the power race on the high bands. It is not uncommon to here of rigs running from 100 to 500 watts and a few locals are reaching for the full gallon. Re-, ceiver preamlifiers are cooming into their own and anntenas are being designed, constructed, adjusted and redesigned for maximum efficiency.


# RADIO & TELEVISION PARTS CO.

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**Amateur — Industrial — T.V.**

You ain't met Skinny Charlie, well here he is showing an embryo ham a piece of newly received Hallicrafters gear. Looks like he tried to buy Hallicrafters out, don't it? When he said Radio & TV Parts was run by Hams for hams and was going to stock what you wanted and need so you won't have to spend your rebel money with carpetbagging Yankee mail order houses, he meant it. Stop in and see for yourself. You can always find a sympathetic ear, free cup of coffee. Radio & TV Parts where the Hams of San Antonio meet to wheel and deal. Best trades, easiest terms. Try 'um yourself.

What are the results? Over the past weeks W5GL, Ted at Lake Buccanan, W5SJU, Doc at Freeport, K5UDU, Jerry at Corpus, K5GDH, Duke and all the Texas Rebels in Austin, and K5YDA, Will at Lockhart (on a Heath Sixer and a 2 element beam) have been putting very respectable signals into San Antonio.

We are looking for the great fall of the old standby, the BC 1158, as they are being solidly QRMD by more efficient rigs. The VHF men are combing the area for such finals as the 6146, 829-B, 4-125A and request are heard for 4-250's and 400's.

SSB is moving up also 6 meter SB signals are emnunating from W5SJV, Tom at Bandera, W5UNU, John and W5UB, Pappy, K5VCR had a SB rig and 6 for a while but TVI caught up with him.

K5VCR and W5UNG are working hard to put San Antonio on the Amateur TV Map. Plans for a Vidio signal at 432 MC and Audio on the 6 or 2 meter bands are shaping up.

2 meter interest is reviving and a little power is going into these rigs also. 144 MC seems to have better ground wave characteristics and plans for more 2 meters acitivity is heard even on the DC bands.

With extended ground wave activity San Antonians are urging that 50.4 and 50.55 MC not be used for QSOs as other Texas Cities use these frequencies for nets and close monitoring of these frequencies will indicate direction and relative strength of propagation.

WA5DHR, Joyce, monitors 50.4 thru out the day and any hooky player who wants to test out a new goody an 6 can give her a call. (After contact PLS QSY)

Thats all for now-see you on 6.
K5LLK/5

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GUTTER DOPE

K5USA, the Fort Sam Houston MARS Station, has been made an honorary member of the San Antonio Radio Club-...- Don't forget the West Gulf ARRL Convention in Corpus Christi on 3-5 August. Make plans to attend now. You won't regret it-...- A recent visitor to the San Antonio Radio Club was Deter Stuehm of Kiel, Germany. Deter is a Radar Technician in the West German Air Force and is attending the language school at Lackland -...- Joe, W8TSP/5, has made the fatal plunge. Got himself an XYL. Our best wishes to Joe and Barbara -...- Have you written your senator or congressman about Senate Bill S2361? If not do so today -.-


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